

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner:

Group:

Attorney Docket #.: 1780

In re:

Applicant(s): HOFSAESS, M.

Serial No.: 10/069,452

Filed: 10/25/2001

AMENDMENT

April 29, 2008

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

The Office Action of March 18, 2008 has been carefully considered.

The main reference cited by the Examiner is U.S. Letters Patent No. 6,931,940. Claims 1-6 and 9 have been rejected as being anticipated by this reference and Claims 7, 8 and 10 have been anticipated by this reference in view of another patent.

However, in view of the filing date and issuance date of the reference, it is not a valid prior art reference and should be withdrawn. This was confirmed in a telephone conference with the Examiner on April 24, 2008.

Since the subject patent is not a valid reference, it is believed that the claims of the subject application should now be considered to be in allowable condition and receipt of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Striker', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael J. Striker
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